

## History

### History to the site

In the 1940's, Tarbay Woods House was called Nightingale Cottage and was part of the Tarbay Estate. Dr Esther Rickards O.B.E (the famous gynaecologist & surgeon) lived in Nightingale Cottage. Jim Rickards her brother owned most of the estate.

The Rickards family were keen dog breeders with George (Esther's brother), specialising in Irish Water Spaniels and Jim's wife Florence breeding Ripplesmere Golden Retrievers. Esther bred Cocker and Clumber Spaniels for show and became a well-respected Crufts Judge and top breeder in her field.



In her later years Dr Esther Rickards passed on her extensive experience in breeding and showing to her friend and neighbour Richard Baylis who lived at Tarbay Farm House. After the sad demise of Dr Esther Rickards, Richards Baylis maintained the spaniel breeding line with his business partner David Cunningham who also bred Irish and Water spaniels. For a period of time Richard Baylis was aid de comp to the Chairman of Crufts, Sir Dudley Ford, whilst David Cunningham became a championship level Crufts judge of Irish and Water spaniels.

In 1971 Richards Baylis and David Cunningham established the boarding facility known as Tarbay Farm Kennels within the extensive grounds which then belonged to Tarbay Farm house; these grounds were later split and sold separately from the House. As demands on their time increased, Richard and David advertised for an assistant and eventually a young lady named Helen was taken on as Kennel Maid.

Over a period of time David and Helen came to love each other and were married two years later. They continued to develop the fledgling business, eventually caring for pets like ones owned by Sir Steve Redgrave, Rex Harrison & Richard Briers. Later a Cattery and Dog training classes (The Barbara Woodhouse Way) were also added to the business.

David Lloyd and latterly with his partner Johnathon Tyndall took over Tarbay Farm Kennels & Cattery in 1997. David successfully built the business and expanded with the introduction



# The Tarbay Centre

of the Top Dog Grooming services and the Hydrotherapy which was pioneering at the time. During this period the name changed from “Tarbay Farm Kennels” to the “The Tarbay Centre”.

In November 2009 Mark Grew and Elisabeth Barton purchased The Tarbay Centre with the explicit aim of ensuring pet welfare and owner’s confidence whilst entrusted with their valuable family member. Elisabeth’s background in hotel management brings the service dynamic and Mark’s film experience in special effects will ensure the kennels and cattery are maintained to the highest standards. Elisabeth’s god parents run Deepdale Kennels and Cattery in North Yorkshire and she brings years of experience and family support to complement the existing Tarbay team of many years service.

The Tarbay Centre is situated in acres of beautiful Windsor Woodland and offers a pet country retreat.

All dogs are exercised in the safety of our fenced fields and woodland dog walks, and are lead-walked each day; this gives them time to sniff and tinkle away from their covered runs. All runs are attached to their night beds and covered in clear perspex allowing sunshine in but keeping the rain out.

The pine Cattery cabins are all heated and situated in all day sunshine allowing felines to bask in the warmth. Each cabin takes a maximum of two kitties from the same household, however larger families can benefit from our interconnecting adjoining cabins.

The Tarbay Centre is used and accredited by the local and Regional RSPCA branches. It is a temporary re-homing centre, assisting with the re-homing of many these special dogs and cats every year.